

great loss, we can show these women that their children's sacrifices are remembered and appreciated, not only on occasions such as Memorial Day, but also throughout the year.

Every time we cast our ballot at the voting booth, every time we join in prayer at our place of worship, we Americans enjoy the liberty and self-government that have been preserved for us by the courage and sacrifices of others. Every time we say good night to our children and grandchildren, knowing that they need no longer fear the nightmare of global nuclear conflict, we enjoy the peace and security that have been attained by the blood of American patriots. So much that we cherish in our daily lives has been made possible by our fallen service members—truly, we cannot express our respect and gratitude often enough.

It is fitting that, in addition to honoring the memory of our fallen military personnel, we also salute the women who nurtured them. Through their children, our Nation's Gold Star Mothers have made a profound contribution to the United States and, yes, to the freedom of millions of people around the world. Today many Gold Star Mothers continue to serve our Nation through generous volunteer work in behalf of veterans, through efforts to promote civic education and patriotism among youth, and through countless other means of community service. On this occasion, we proudly acknowledge their courage and example and reaffirm America's commitment to promoting democracy and respect for human rights, which are the only sure foundation for lasting freedom, justice, and peace among nations.

The Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 115 (June 23, 1936), designated the last Sunday in September as "Gold Star Mother's Day" and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim September 27, 1992, as Gold Star Mother's Day. I call on all government officials to display the United States flag on government buildings on this day. I also urge the American people to display the flag and to hold appropriate meetings in their homes, places of worship, or other suitable places, as a public expression of the sympathy and the respect that our Nation has for its Gold Star Mothers.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-third day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventeenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 6476 of September 23, 1992

National Disability Employment Awareness Month, 1992

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The United States has long been the world's leading champion of the rights of individuals, and it is only natural that we now serve in the

forefront of efforts to promote equal opportunity for persons with disabilities. Since I signed the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) on July 26, 1990, scores of other nations have been motivated to reexamine the challenges faced by their citizens with disabilities. The ADA, which prohibits discrimination in employment, public accommodations, transportation, and communications, provides a model for people everywhere as it affirms our commitment to ensuring that Americans with disabilities are not excluded from our Nation's cultural and economic mainstream.

Ensuring equal opportunities for persons with disabilities is not only a serious moral and legal obligation, it is also good business sense. As we work to expand markets for U.S. goods and services and to strengthen America's competitiveness in an increasingly technological world, we must fully utilize our Nation's wealth of human capital. One-third of all Americans with disabilities who are of working age are currently employed. The other two-thirds constitute a vast, untapped source of knowledge, skills, and talent. In addition to being costly—today Americans spend more than \$200 billion annually to support potentially productive people—such a waste of human ability stands in stark contrast to the American traditions of individual dignity and self-reliance and empowerment through opportunity and hard work. There are some 43 million Americans with disabilities in the United States, and the vast number of these individuals want very much to lead full, independent, and productive lives. To employ these determined candidates is to make a wise investment in our Nation's future.

As we work to achieve harmonious implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act, we will open doors of opportunity for millions of people—thereby expanding the ranks of workers and consumers, which, in turn, generates productivity and profits for business while enabling individuals and families to pursue the American Dream. I congratulate the business and industry leaders and community leaders from all walks of life who are working together to implement the ADA, and I pledge the total cooperation of the Federal Government. Our continuing progress is testimony both to the fundamental vitality and fairness of our free enterprise system and to our abiding commitment to liberty and justice for all.

The Congress, by joint resolution approved August 11, 1945, as amended (36 U.S.C. 155), has called for the designation of October of each year as "National Disability Employment Awareness Month." This month is a special time for all Americans to recognize the tremendous potential of persons with disabilities and to renew our commitment to equal opportunity for them, as for every citizen.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 1992 as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. I call on all Americans to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities that affirm our determination to fulfill both the letter and the spirit of the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-third day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and

ninety-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventeenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 6477 of September 23, 1992

National Farm-City Week, 1992

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The tremendous productivity of America's farms has been a great blessing to this Nation and to millions of people around the world. As our leading industry, agriculture has fueled America's strength and progress while, at the same time, making the United States the world's largest exporter of food products and its most generous provider of food aid. The week that ends on Thanksgiving is, therefore, a fitting time to salute our farmers and all those Americans who work in partnership with them to bring the Lord's bounty from the fields to our families' tables.

While the United States enjoys a wealth of God-given resources, from hospitable climates to rich, fertile soils, the key to our agricultural productivity is the ingenuity and skill of our farmers and the fundamental efficiency and fairness of our free enterprise system. On average, one American farmer currently produces food and fiber for 129 people—a number that continues to increase. One of every three acres planted in this country produces crops for export. As a result of such efficiency and productivity, we in the United States can purchase our food with a smaller percentage of our disposable income than citizens of any other country. This enables us to use the remainder of our income to purchase other goods and services and to save and invest for the future. Together, these factors help the United States to maintain the highest standard of living in the world.

America's farmers are joined in their efforts by millions of other men and women who have, in a sense, put their hands to the plow in a competitive, market-based system that provides farmers with production supplies and related services, then processes, packages, and transports agricultural goods to retail markets across the United States and around the world. This system includes researchers in our Land Grant universities and private companies, who are developing ever-safer and more effective fertilizers, technologies, and pest control methods. It also includes specialists who ensure crop quality and manufacturers who transform raw materials into usable products, from breakfast cereals to grain-based alternative fuels. From wholesalers and distributors to local retailers, a vast network of men and women completes the partnership that begins in our rural communities and extends to our largest urban areas. For nearly 40 years now, we Americans have observed National Farm-City Week in celebration of this partnership and in grateful recognition of the more than 20 million Americans who make it work so well for all of us.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution